cock, as they ruſhed off, made ſo much the louder expanſive Exploſion.

XXXV.

The Preſident's *Report of the Account given him by* Tho. Burrat, *of* Kenſington, *concerning the* Earthquake *on* March 8. *laſt paſt.*

Read April 26. 1750. ON *Tueſday* the 24th of this preſent *April* 1750. Mr. *Thomas Burrat*, of *Kenſington*, a Husbandman, and Bailiff to the Right Honourable *Henry Fox* Eſq; of *Holland Houſe*, gave me the following Account:

That, being early about his Buſineſs in the Grounds about a Quarter of a Mile from the ſaid Houſe, on *Thurſday* the 8th Day of *March* laſt, as he was going to tell his Sheep (which he does every Morning, and which were then lying down on a dry ſloping Piece of Ground), he heard, as he thought, about a Quarter after Five a Clock, a Noiſe, much like Thunder at a Diſtance; which coming, to his Apprehenſion, from the North-Weſt, continued ſome ſmall time, growing louder as it came nearer him, and gave a Crack (ſo he expreſſed himſelf) over his Head; and then went off in the ſame manner it came on towards the South-Eaſt.

He ſaid, that the Sky was, to his thinking, quite clear, and without any Cloud; and that he ſaw neither Lightning, nor any Appearance of Fire; but that, immediately after the Crack, he found the

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Ground to ſhake under him; and that he even ſaw it move where he was (tho' as dry and ſound a Spot as any he knows) like a Quagmire or Quickſand; inſomuch that he could not help being apprehenſive, that it would have opened, and taken him in.

He ſays, that the Sheep he was beginning to tell all ſtarted up at once, as frighted, and preſently began to run, as if purſued by ſomewhat they were apprehenſive of. He ſaid further, that he took notice, that ſeveral Crows, which were at Rooſt upon ſome Trees not far off, all at the ſame Inſtant flew away, making the ſame Noiſe they conſtantly make when they are affrighted at the Diſcovery of a Bird of Prey, or any other Enemy; and that the Trees themſelves very ſenſibly trembled and ſhook.

The Noiſe he heard began a ſenſible time before the Shake of the Earth; and he judges that the whole Matter laſted better than a Minute.

He firſt expreſſed himſelf about the Direction of the Noiſe he heard in the Manner juſt above related; and, being asked again concerning that Particular, he explained himſelf by ſaying, that, to his thinking, it came on from between *Hillington* and *Harrow on the Hill*, and went off over *Deptford:* Which may be obſerved to be very agreeable to his other Deſcription.

Mr. *Bird*, the eminent Mathematical Inſtrument-maker in the *Strand*, told me alſo the ſame Day, that he heard, at his Houſe, a Noiſe, like the Diſcharge of a Cannon at ſome Diſtance, juſt before the Earthquake; and that his Bed, in which he then was, was very ſenſibly rocked from right to left twice: And that he is well aſſured the Feet of the

Bed were actually lifted up from the Floor, during the Motion; as he was very ſenſible, by the Noiſe they made when they came to the Floor again, 4 times in all, twice to his right Hand, and as often to his left Hand.

XXXVI.

Extract of a Letter from Cheſter, *concerning an* Earthquake *felt there* April 2. 1750. *communicated by* Robert Paul *Eſq*; *F. R. S.*

Read May 3. 1750.

I CAN'T help informing you (as it is a Matter of Concern to every one) that, on *Monday* Night laſt, about 10 o' Clock, we felt in this City a Shock of an Earthquake. It was ſenſibly felt by all or moſt of the Inhabitants. A few Bricks were ſhook off a Chimney in *Foreſt-ſtreet*; ſeveral Houſe-bells were rung; the Centinel at the Caſtle was ſhook off his Seat in the Centry-box; the Houſes all over the Town were ſhaken, and the People terribly frighten'd and alarm'd. It has been felt for ſome Miles round the Town, particularly at *Barn-Hill*, where the Houſes were greatly ſhaken. We are in great Fears of another more violent.